



# SURVEY: INCOMING BACHELOR AND MASTER STUDENTS

## Executive Summary



**About the Survey.** 341 students have participated in the survey, mostly from the 18 to 24 age group (70%), although 28% were from the 25 to 34 age group. 76% of respondents were women. The distribution between Degree students and Master students was balanced (60% of respondents were or have been Degree students and 40%, Masters students). 94% of the respondents carried out a mobility study programme, with mobility traineeships being insignificant (2%). The origin of foreign students who visited the universities belonging to the consortium is very varied, with Italy standing out with 23%, Germany with 22% and France with 15%.



**About the language level of incoming foreign students.** The data obtained on the language level of our incoming students has high reliability as only 30% indicate that the language level expressed comes from *self-assessment*. Given this factor, it can be confirmed that English is the most used and accredited language (76% of the sample fall in the range between B1 and C1). This is closely followed by Spanish with 60% in this range of language qualification. In both languages, the highest percentage of level/accreditation is found at C1 level.



**About the Erasmus+ mobility programme.** The main source of awareness of the Erasmus+ programme for these foreign students is their university of origin (50%), followed by friends or peers (24%) and the Internet (16%). There are basically two reasons for deciding to follow an Erasmus mobility programme and they are, in this order: *To experience other cultures and meet new people* (89% of cases) and *To improve knowledge and skills* (80% of cases). As for the chosen destination it should be noted that 67% of respondents chose Spain (University of Cadiz). Whatever country is chosen for the stay, respondents clearly show two reasons for their choice: *I liked the country* (75% of cases) and *I wanted to improve my language skills* (74%), leaving *The prestige of the university in question* at a distant 7%.



**Problems with the Erasmus+ programme.** Problems with the Erasmus+ programme are self-perceived to a different degree by the respondents. 32% of foreign students who followed the Erasmus programme at a university belonging to the consortium had a problem

before their stay and 43% had problems during their stay. Problems decrease after the stay (15%). In the case of those who had a problem before their stay, these problems can be summarized in three, in order of importance: *Insufficient information about the host institution* (35% of cases), *Poor communication with the tutor of the host institution* (33%) and *Insufficient information on the part of my institution* (27% of cases). In addition, those who had a problem during their stay coincide in three main problems: *Academic difficulties* (38% of cases), *Language* (33% of cases) and *Poor communication with the tutor of the host institution* (30% of cases). In the final case of the few students who had a problem after their stay, this is concentrated mainly on *the equivalence of ECTS credits in relation to my University of origin* (41%).



**Evaluation and benefits of the Erasmus+ programme.** The foreign students surveyed were very satisfied (54%) or quite satisfied (26%) with the experience, leaving 6% very dissatisfied. This magnificent assessment is more related to personal benefits than to academic or work-related ones. Thus, in order of importance, two major benefits emerge: *The possibility of experiencing another country or language* (89% of cases), *Personal development* (78% of cases), falling distant from *Academic benefit* (27% of cases). The degree of satisfaction with the programme is high, in fact, 85% of those who have followed an Erasmus programme would repeat the experience.